



FINANCE COMMITTEE

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Recommendations of the Finance Committee
for the articles prepared for the
warrant of the Special Town Meeting
scheduled for Monday, May 11, 2015

Recommendations of the Finance Committee for the articles prepared for the warrant of the Special Town Meeting scheduled for Monday, May 11, 2015:

Article 1

Finance Committee recommends passage of Article 1 in the amount of \$91,672.00.

These transfers result in no additional spending and adjust the FY15 budget to reflect updated estimates and spending within the departments noted. The Finance Committee believes that these transfers appropriately reflect changing circumstances.

Article 2

The Finance Committee opposes passage of Article 2.

The Committee understands that there are no adjustments required to the FY15 Sewer Enterprise Fund budget and that the motion at the Special Town Meeting will be to pass over this article.

Article 3

Finance Committee recommends passage of Article 3.

Finance Committee supports Article 3 to balance the FY15 Snow and Ice Account.

Article 4

Finance Committee recommends passage of Article 4 in the amount of \$1,121.46.

This action requires a nine-tenths vote at Town Meeting.

Article 5

Finance Committee recommends passage of Article 5.

The Town is entitled to collect real property taxes on the land occupied by a solar field and personal property taxes on the solar generating equipment. The assessment and collection of real property taxes will take place using the Town real estate tax process and are not affected by this article. Without the agreement proposed in this article, the personal property tax would decline annually over the lifetime of the solar panels. This agreement provides a predictable, level personal property tax revenue pattern for both the facility operator and the Town. The duration and tax rate recommended in the article follow practices recommended by the Department of Revenue, are consistent with those employed in other towns, have been recommended by the Board of Assessors and have been approved by the Board of Selectmen.

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Article 6

Finance Committee recommends passage of Article 6.

The Town is entitled to collect real property taxes on the land occupied by a solar field and personal property taxes on the solar generating equipment. The assessment and collection of real property taxes will take place using the Town real estate tax process and are not affected by this article. Without the agreement proposed in this article, the personal property tax would decline annually over the lifetime of the solar panels. This agreement provides a predictable, level personal property tax revenue pattern for both the facility operator and the Town. The duration and tax rate recommended in the article follow practices recommended by the Department of Revenue, are consistent with those employed in other towns, have been recommended by the Board of Assessors and have been approved by the Board of Selectmen.

Article 7

Finance Committee recommends passage of Article 7 in the amount of \$9,000.000.

This article transfers funds from Fire Department Personnel Services to the Fire Department Retirement account.

Article 8

Finance Committee recommends passage of Article 8 not to exceed \$50,000.00.

This article will open an account for the School Department to maintain its iPad program by allowing for sales of older equipment and purchase of newer.

Article 9

Finance Committee recommends passage of Article 9 not to exceed \$10,000.00.

This article will allow the Library Department to open an account for the purchase of materials sold to library users.

Article 10

Finance Committee recommends passage of this article in the amount of \$92,000.00.

This is required in order to comply with the original restoration terms of the contract between the Town and the Grafton Lions Club for the use of the Lions Club property for the Lake Ripple Dredging Project.

Article 11

The Finance Committee recommends passage of Article 11 in the amount of \$753,321.00.

This article amends an amount for State-Aid Highway funding. It is the result of an additional amount of funding from the State's Transportation Bond Bill.

Article 12

The Finance Committee recommends passage of Article 12 in the amount of \$2,814.00.

This article satisfies the Community Preservation Act requirement to reserve 10% of Community Preservations Act funds for affordable housing purposes. It is the result of a larger than expected State match.

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Article 13

The Finance Committee recommends passage of Article 13 in the amount of \$2,814.00.

This article satisfies the Community Preservation Act requirement to reserve 10% of Community Preservations Act funds for open space purposes. It is the result of a larger than expected State match.

Article 14

The Finance Committee recommends passage of Article 14 in the amount of \$2,814.00.

This article satisfies the Community Preservation Act requirement to reserve 10% of Community Preservations Act funds for historical preservation purposes. It is the result of a larger than expected State match.